New Mexico. There was, he said, no power in Utah to punish polygamy, and Mormon-ism was so strong in his own state of Idaho that, notwithstanding the leader of the section that state had testified that he was the husband of three wives, there was no possi-bility of bringing him to account because of the political power of his church. "Wherever there is Mormonism there is polygamy." he said, and added that the only way to prevent polygamy was to strike at the organization that encourages it.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

Private pension legislation was the order of business in the House today, 408 bills being on the calendar. The first motion entered was by Mr. Payne (N. Y.), that when the House adjourn today it be to meet on Monday next. The motion was

The Senate amendements in the Carnegie educational foundation bill were agreed to. The legislative, executive and judicial appropriation bill was reported by Mr. Littauer from the appropriations committee.

A resolution calling on the Postmaster General to inform the House why the Indahoma Union Signal of Shawnee, Okla., is excluded as second-class matter was laid on the table by unanimous report from the post office committee.

When the pension calendar had been cleared by the passage of 408 bills at 2 o'clock, Mr. Prince demanded the regular order for the purpose of getting up the bili to abolish the grade of lieutenant general in the army.

Mr. Bonynge (Col.) called up the privileged bill to establish a bureau of immigra-tion and naturalization. This took precedence, and Mr. Bonynge took the floor to

SENTENCE COMMUTED

MRS. TOLLA TO SERVE IMPRISON-MENT FOR MURDER.

By Associated Press TRENTON, N. J., March 9 .- The sentence of death imposed upon Mrs. Antoinette Tolla, the Bergen county murderess, for the killing of Joseph Sonta, was today commuted to seven and one half years' im-

prisonment by the court of pardons.

The vote stood 6 to 2. Mrs. Tolla was to have been hanged in Hackensack on Monday, March 12. This is the first time the court of pardons has ever commuted a death sentence to other than life imprisonment.

Special Dispatch to The Star.

TRENTON, N. J., March 9.- The belief here was that Mrs. Antoinette Tolla would this afternoon obtain a further reprieve from the court of pardons preliminary to a new trial, on the ground that Mrs. Tolla's evidence in court when she was convicted was not properly interpreted.

The court met this afternoon in extraordinary session, by call of Gov. Stokes. Because of the governor's action in calling the court together it was considered certain that he will vote for a further reprieve and that a majority will vote with him.

GOES TO GRAND JURY

LEO R. FITZGERALD HELD FOR A. W. C. NOWLIN'S DEATH.

A coroner's jury, composed of Messrs. C. O. Abbott, C. L. Tschiffely, John Holmes, George Stone, J. T. Milton and J. A. Edwards, sat in the hearing before Coroner wards, sat in the hearing before Coroner tendent of buildings, Commissioner Biddle the ensuing year to Congress without trans-Ramsay Nevitt at the morgue this morning to examine into the cause of the death of Abner W. C. Nowlin, the aged attache of the Central Union Mission. Nowlin died from injuries resulting from a fall down the steps of the mission on C street the wight of March 5 while engaged in a tussel with Leo R. Fitzgerald. The jury held Fitzgerald for the action of the grand jury as being responsible for Mr. Nowlin's

The inquest began shortly after 11 o'clock The inquest began snortly after II o clock this morning, Deputy Coroner Glazebrook being the first witness. Dr. Glazebrook testified that he had performed an autopsy on the body of Nowlin at the morgue and found he had died of some fracture of the skull at the back of the head. Dr. L. L. Whiting, the next witness, stated that Nowlin was brought to the Emergency Hospital the night of March 5, and that he was suffering from a severe scalp wound and concussion of the baln. He never regained consciousness, and died March 7.

Officer W. J. Canfield of No. 6 precinct told of the arrest of Fitzgerald and of his

told of the arrest of Fitzgerald and of his being locked up. George C. Townshend and James C. Hur-

ley, attaches of the Central Union Mission, both stated that Fitzgerald came into the mission after 12 o'clock; that he was drunk and acted in a very ugly manner. Mr. Now-lin, who was in charge, told him he would either have to go to bed or go out, and when the prisoner refused to do either Nowlin started him out. Nowlin had gone with Fitzgerald to the door of the mission, when the latter tripped Nowiin, and both rolled down the steps. In the opinion of the witness Nowlin received the injuries from which he died. Both witnesses characterized the prisoner as troublesome when

The coroner asked the accused man if he wished to make any statement, and warned him that whatever he said would be used against him if the case should go to court After some hesitation, he decided to make a statement. He said that the evening Mr. Nowlin was hurt he had gone to the mission and attended the religious serv-At the conclusion of the services he had secured his bed ticket and had gone out. On his return he claimed that Nowlin had caught hold of him, and in trying to put him out of the building had fallen over the feet of the prisoner. He denied in positive terms having tripped Nowlin or having had any grudge against him, but acknowledged that he had been drinking. This closed the testimony. The jury were about a half hour in reaching the verdict given. At the conclusion of the hearing the prisoner was taken to head-quarters to be photographed and afterward to the jail, to await the action of the grand

CLOSE OF NIGHT SCHOOLS.

Sessions of Majority of Them to End This Evening.

Instruction for the present year will cease in the majority of the local public night schools this evening. The Gales and Garnet and the night business high schools will close next Monday.

The appropriation for night school work permits the extra session for three schools. and those mentioned are selected because of their uniformly excellent attendance and as representing the three different classes, the white and the colored grade schools and high school work.

Appropriate exercises for the closing of the schools are being prepared in many of the buildings, the Jefferson School particularly having arranged to close with an elaborate program.

The schools have been open for fifty-seven

WRIT OF MANDAMUS.

Hearing of Case Against Georgetown College.

After hearing argument today on the ap-After hearing argument today on the application of Edward Gannon for a writ of mandamus to compel the president and directors of Georgetown College to reinstate the plaintiff as a student in the freshman class of the college, Justice Barnard, in Criminal Court No. 2, took the matter under advisement. Attorney Wilton J. Lambert appeared for the plaintiff, and arguments in behalf of the defendants were made by Attorneys Hamilton & Colbert.

The hearing occupied the attention of the

The hearing occupied the attention of the court throughout the morning and during a part of the afternoon session. Among the interested auditors in the court room were Rev. Father Buel, president of the college; Mr. Frank S. Gannon and his son, the claiming.

PRAISES THE SCHOOLS

Report of Business Men's Association Committee.

MORE PAY FOR TEACHERS

Washington Much Behind Other Large Cities.

AGAINST PROPOSED CHANGES

Pending Bills Discussed-Hearing Be fore Representative Mcrrell's Subcommittee.

Engineer Commissioner Biddle and Fred G. Coldren, chairman of the committee on school and library of the Business Men's Association of this city, were the principal witnesses today before the Morrell subcommittee of the District House committee which is conducting hearings on the local public school system

Commissioner Biddle, when asked by Representative Morrell concerning a statement made before the subcommittee some days ago to the effect that local school houses were insanitary, said that in the new school houses, at least, the sanitary proposition was excellent. The plumbing was modern in type, and, if anything, was too expensive. The playrooms were usually located downstairs, had concrete floors and were sanitary.

The cloak rooms were located on one of the class room floors, and in the nature of things their sanitary condition must be as good as that of the class rooms themselves. So far as the heating apparatus was concerned, the most modern appliances were used, and in all the new buildings, at least, the scholars were supplied with ample quantities of fresh air. In reply to questions of Representative Green of Massachusetts, a member of the subcommittee. Comoner Biddle said that there had been no complaints concerning the inadequacy of any heating plant in the local schools.

Conditions at Mott School.

Mrs. Curtis, the wife of Dr. Curtis, the colored surgeon-in-chief of Freedmen's Hospital, asked Col. Biddle if he knew anything of the sanitary conditions at the Mott School. Col. Biddle replied that he was not familiar with the individual schools, and Mrs. Curtis, for his information, stated that the Mott School, being located at the foot of Howard hill, received all the draining from that declivity, and very frequently a pool of water collected beneath the struc-

Col. Biddle admitted that some of the old buildings were not in proper shape, and told the subcommittee that he would look into conditions at the Mott School and report as soon as possible

Commissioner Biddle did not think much of the idea of having a superintendent of buildings and supplies. He did not think that a man who looked after the heating apparatus, for instance, should have to also care for the question of supplies.

In reply to questions by Dr. Fardon, chairman of the school committee of the Board of Trade, the Commissioner said that the new school buildings erected in Washington were not what might be called fire-proof, although they were considered to be perfectly safe, having at least two sets of stairs and three exits. The authorities had not had sufficient money to make the build-

same purpose that was intended by the creation of the new office would be served in increasing the present force. If additional inspection of school buildings was desired an increase in the force, he thought, was the proper way to accomplish it. He did not approve of the

tendency to specialize in this direction.

Mr. James F. Oyster, president of the board of directors of the Business Men's Association, then introduced Mr. Coldren. who presented to the subcommittee the re-port of the association's committee on schools and libraries, which had been adopted by the board of directors of that organization.

Mr. Coldren said that the committee had devoted much time to the subject of the local school system, had held hearings extending over several weeks, had heard a considerable number of witnesses, and had made vigorous efforts to obtain in formation from any reliable source bearing

upon proposed changes in the school law. More Pay for Teachers Urged.

Mr. Coldren said that the committee, after all this investigation, was very strongly in favor of one feature of the pending legislation-that providing better salaries for teachers. He asserted that Washington teachers receive lower pay than the teachers in nearly all the large cities of country, and much lower pay than the teachers in those cities having the best school systems. Of the thirty-nine cities having over 100,000 population only two, he said, pay a lower average salary to high school teachers than this city.

He presented figures to the subcommittee

showing that the average salary paid to principals and teachers in high schools in the cities of from 200,000 to 1,000,000 popuwas \$1,287. In Washington it was The average salary of principals and teachers of elementary schools in the same cities was \$632; in Washington it was \$676. The witness said that a considerable number of exceptionally valuable teachers have recently left Washingon to accept paid positions elsewhere, and the education was experiencing con siderable difficulty in securing desirable teachers because of insufficient salaries. Mr. Coldren said that all the bills intro-luced made provision for increased salaries, and, speaking for the business men and taxpayers of Washington, he asserted that the committee wants such increase in the appropriation for teachers' salaries as will permit the board of education to secure and retain teachers of the highest stand ard and to compete with the other cities of the country in doing this. The committee had placed education as the foremost of

Appointing Board of Education.

Considering the proposition of having the President appoint the members of the board of education, Mr. Coldren said the committee would strongly oppose this

"Whatever," he said, "might be the President's desire or personal interest in the matter, it would be a physical impossibility for him to be accessible to the people of the District for consultation about such appointments. The Commissioners are unquesionably in better position to know and to properly judge of the fitness of our teach-

Mr. Coldren said that if presented as an independent proposition the Commissioners would favor a change of the term of mem-bers of the board of education from seven bers of the board of education from seven to three years, vacancies at the expiration of the terms of members of the present board to be filled by three-year appoint-ments. He believer, however, that this change should be made in a bill independent of the salary bill, as after the whole con-sideration of the subject the Commissioners believed that the salary bill would only be hampered and perhaps prevented from pass-age by being loaded down with other prop-osttlons for changes.

Neither could any advantage be seen, he said, in changing the number of the board from 7 to 9, the modern tendency in business, as well as in school organizations, being toward smaller managing boards.
The association, Mr. Coidren said, favored the proposition that all meetings of the board of education, except committee meetings, dealing with the appointment or char-acter of teachers, should be public. This, too, it was believed, should be provided in an independent bill.

Superintendent of Buildings. "Some bills," sald Mr. Coldren, "provide for a superintendent of buildings and supplies to submit plans, award contracts and supervise the construction of new build-ing, purchase and distribute books and

other supplies. This would, in some re-

bringing those matters more directly under control of the board of education. The es-tablishment of such an office would, how-ever, require considerable expenditure, in-cluding the salary of the superintendent, his quarters, office equipment and cierical force. We are advised that our later school buildings, constructed by the build-ing department of the District government, although often less attractive architectur-ally than we might wish, owing to insuffi-ciency of appropriations, are excellently

ciency of appropriations, are excellently adapted to their practical uses.

"Submission of all detailed plans to the school officials would, we are sure, avoid the very few criticisms they now offer as to arrangement and equipment of buildings."

Mr. Coldren said that the committee had leoided, after full consideration, that the establishment of the office of supervisor of lectures, to be appointed for a term of six years, removable only for cause in written charges, by a vote of two-thirds of the board, and to have full control of lectures for the people, was both unnecessary and

"Such lectures," he said, reading from the "Such lectures," he said, reading from the report of the committee, "should unquestionably be controlled by the board of education, and it can readily be conducted through the director of night schools or other agencies of the board, either with an advisory committee of citizens, as at present, or otherwise, as may be found desirable. The use of the school buildings, light, heat and apparatus should under no circumstances be intrusted to any one not subject to the control of the board of education."

Importance of Night Schools.

More liberal appropriations for night schools were also strongly favored by the committee, Mr. Coldren said. These schools he said, reach a most deserving class, those employed during the day, yet so fully appreclating the need of education that they attend and apply themselves at night when weary from the day's labor. These schools, he asserted, would reach many more of this class if extended to other portions of the city, and they should also be opened earlier in the fall and continued later in the spring than is the automated. the spring than is the custom at the pres

ent time.

Mr. Coldren said the committee opposer Mr. Coldren said the committee opposed prohibiting by law any change in text books oftener than three years. Where text books were provided from public funds, as in this District, the committee was opposed to limiting the period within which they might be changed. Geographies, especially, he remarked, might become quite inaccurate within a period of three years, and such questions should be left to the determination of the board of education.

Superintendent of Schools

The witness then called the attention of he committee to the requirement contained in some of the bills that the superintendent of schools shall have received the degree of doctor of philosophy. Such provision, Mr. Coldren pointed out, would remove the present superintendent, whose degrees are M. A. and Ph. B., and it was the unanimous opinion that the standing of the present superintendent is such that a proposition of this nature ought not to receive serious consideration from any source.

The committee also opposed the provision for the omission of the director of high schools from the organization. The duties now performed by this official should not be added to the present responsibilities of the superintendent of schools.

The committee was also opposed to specifying in inflexible, statutory law the subjects of examinations of teachers, either in

the grades or the high schools.

This matter, he thought, should be left to the board. The committee also opposed the appropriation of a fixed percentage of the assessed value of real property in the Die. assessed value of real property in the Dis-trict for support of schools. He pointed out that in case of protracted financial depression such assessed valuation might temporarily decrease or remain stationary for while the school popuplation would years. While the school population would steadily increase. It was the opinion of the committee that appropriations for school purposes should be as liberal as possible under all circumstances and that the annual amount should be determined by yearly estimates.

Submission of Estimates.

mitting them through the Commissioners was considered to be manifestly impracticable. It was pointed out that the funds available for all municipal expenses are limited and that the Commissioners must necessarily have the entire field in view when presenting their recommendations for

local appropriations.

The committee, he said, considered that It would be just as reasonable to transfer the estimates for militia support to one channel, for maintenance of charities through another and for police and fire service through another. The result, he said, would, of course, be that the combined estimates would greatly exceed the total revenues and Congress would be at a loss to know where the necessary reducloss to know where the necessary reduclons could be permitted.

In the opinion of the committee, derived not only from the present inquiry, but also from general observation and information, local public school system was good

and the general results excellent. Committee's Views in Brief.

Briefly summed up, the position of the ommittee as to proposed legislation was as

Material increase of salaries for school officers and teachers. Nearly all the proposed changes of law are unwarranted or not adapted to local

conditions and are unwise. As to those features not clearly unwise not one compares in importance with the necessity for the increase of salaries. To insert any of these propositions in a

oill for increasing salaries might hinder, lelay and endanger the success of the one feature that is essential.

That the bill H. R. 8472, providing for ncrease of salaries and excluding all other onsiderations, should be properly passed. Every question aside from that of in-

rease of salaries should be presented, if at all in a bill or bills independent of the measure for increase of salaries, so that each idea may stand or fall on its merits and not embarrass the one principle which apparently are agreed.

The report of the committee presented to Chairman Morrell of the subcommittee bore the signatures of Fred G. Coldren, W

A. H. Church, Allan D. Albert, fr., Albert A. H. Church, Allah D. Albert, Jr., Albert Schulters, Percival M. Brown, James L. Norris, jr., ohn V. Dalsh, H. Rozier Du-laney, Charles W. Claggett, V. Baldwin Johnson, James F. Oyster, A. Leftwitch Sinclair, Benjamin S. Graves, William J. Acker and William F. Gude, secretary of the board of directors of the association. Mr. T. Edward Clark, who appeared before the committee the other day, and whose testimony created some amusement, in view of the fact that he could not se anything good about the present school system, took occasion to question Mr. Coldren as to how the committee ascertained that the public schools were excellent and the general results good.

Mrs. Murray's Suggestion.

Mr. Coldren was beginning to reply when Representative Morrell shut down on the discussion, and Mrs. Annie Murray, colored, representing a local kindergarten association, addressed the committee briefly, urging additional salaries for teachers. urging additional salaries for teachers.

Mrs. Murray advocated a rather unique
proposition as to a wage scale. She thought
normal school graduates should be started
in at the third or fourth grades, and that
the wage scale should go both ways. She
thought a teacher who was specially qualifled to teach younger children should be
permitted to follow her natural bent, but
not be barred from promotion. She pointed not be barred from promotion. She pointed out that at present it was necessary for a normal school graduate to begin at work was especially congenial, in order to secure promotion she was automatically ad-vanced from grade to grade. Some women who taught the younger children when they began would be very glad to continue they began would be very glad to continue in this special work if permitted to do so, and if promotions could be assured.

Mrs. Murray indorsed the public lecture provision in some of the bills, claiming that a large proportion of the laboring element of the city are very glad to visit these places, and received much benefit from them.

SUICIDE IDENTIFIED.

Body Found at Paris Not an American Girl.

PARIS, March 9 .- Mr. and Mrs. Brown of London arrived here last night from England and recognized the body of Ethel A. Brown, which was found recently in the river Seine, as their daughter thus terminating the police inquiries as to the identity of the deceased, who was errone-

(Continued from First Page.)

at the outbreak of the Spanish war as a sergeant in Company M, 2d Mississippi In-fantry, and in 1899 he was appointed a sec-ond lieutenant in the 43d United States Inond lieutenant in the 43d United States Infantry. In 1901 he was honorably mustered out of the volunteer service, and in the same year entered the regular army as a second lieutenant in the 10th Cavalry. In 1902 he became a first lieutenant of the 15th Cavalry, and in 1903 was detailed to the Signal Corps.

First Lieut. Ernest H. Agnew entered the army as a second lieutenant in the 20th

the army as a second lieutenant in the 20th Kansas Volunteer Infantry, May 10, 1898, Kansas Volunteer Infantry, May 10, 1898, and was made captain of the 11th United States Volunteer Cavalry in 1899. He was appointed second lieutenant in the regular army February 2, 1901, reaching the grade of first lieutenant on the 28th of the same month. He has been attached to the 6th Infantry since June, 1902.

First Lieut. Wylle T. Conway is a native of Illionois, and entered the army as a private in the 7th Infantry May 27, 1898. In February, 1901, he was commissioned a sec-

February, 1901, he was commissioned a second lieutenant, 28th Infantry, and in May, fantry.

Cooke a Native of the District.

Ensign Henry D. Cooke, jr., who com mands the gunboat Pampanga, a small craft of 200 tons, was born in the District of Columbia and appointed to the navy from New York in September, 1899. His father lives at 166 West 55th street. New York. His commission as ensign was only recently signed by the President, and is now on its way to the Philippines. He has been on duty on the Asiatic station since 1903, and recently relieved Ensign Oscar S. Cooper of command of the Pampanga, of which, prior to that time, he was executive

It is supposed the Pampanga was at Jolo, but the movements of the gunboats of the Philippine squadron are reported to the commander-in-chief of the Asiatic station. but are not forwarded to the Navy Department, and the latter is without any advices concerning the engagement. Nor is it known whether other naval vessels were present at the time of the trouble.

No Moros Made Prisoners.

From the fact that the official report of the Jolo engagement says nothing about captured or wounded Moros, it is assumed by army officers at the War Department that all the natives who made their last stand at the fortifications on Mount Dajo were exterminated. The presence of Gens. Wood and Bliss at the fight makes it evident that serious trouble was expected at Jolo and that vigorous and decisive action was planned to thoroughly subjugate the lawless bands of Moros who persistently re-fused to respect the authority and laws of the United States in the Philippines. The news of the sangularry engagement

came as a surprise to the officials at the War Department, as they have not received any reports from the Philippines recently to indicate anything in the nature of a general uprising in Jolo, or, in fact, anything more than the sporadic outbreaks of small bands of fanatic follower of the sultan.

The officer who sent the dispatch from

Manila in the absence of Gen. Wood is Col George Andrews of the military secretary department, who was recently stationed a As soon as received a copy of Col. Andrews' dispatch was sent to Secretary Taft

at the White House and formed the basis of a general discussion by the President and his cabinet of the troublous condition of affairs in the Philippines.

Discussed at the Capitol. The Associated Press dispatch of the Jole

battle was particularly interesting to members of the House who were with the Taft expedition to the Philippines last summer. Representative Longworth remarked of cading the message of Gen. Wood: "I re-member that little island very well indeed. We went all over it. It was there the Sultan of Sulu entertained us with an exhibi-tion of the native sport, including buffalo fights. The inhabitants of the island are entirely uncivilized, being Mohammedans and religious fanatics of the most pro-nounced type. They have no military organizations and their fights are all inspired

by religious beliefs. "At any time a priest among any of the mountain bands can inspire an uprising, when a swoop on the lower country will be made. The belief that if killed in battle they will go directly to heaven makes them desperate and anxious to fight to the death. "This island, which is one of the extreme southern islands of the archipelago, was one of our last stops in the Philippines."
"I took pictures of those hills," remarked

Representative Sherley of Kentucky, who was also of the party. "Jolo," he continued, "is an old walled town. Directly to the south outside the wall is an extended natural amphitheater sloping to the sea. It is formed by a circular chain of hills, of which the battlefield described in the dispatches was undoubtedly one."

"The soldiers told me," said Representative Cooper of Wisconsin, "that they were exceedingly glad when our party wen aboard ship from this island. The native there are the most treacherous of any in the group. Our people kept them down for some time by telling them that whenever they were killed in battle the Americans would bury them with a pig in their grave They believe that they cannot go to heaver through a pig, and were in mortal dread of being killed for that reason."

MORE MASSACRE TALK

RUSSIAN JEWS ALARMED AGAIN AT APPROACH OF EASTER.

ST. PETERSBURG, March 9.-The fears of a renewal of Jewish massacres at Easter, to which a deputation recently called Premier Witte's attention, appear, upon investigation, to have real foundation. The 'Black Hundred" organizations in the "pale" and also elsewhere in European Russia are conducting an agitation to slaughter the "enemies of Russia."

Circulars have been prepared in Petersburg calling for the extermination of the Jews. At Minsk the Society of Old Believers has had the temerity to address a request to the premier for permission to crush the nation's foes.

The premier immediately notified the governor general of Minsk to take measures to prevent any outbreak.

Funeral of A. W. C. Nowlin. Arrangements have been made for the funeral services over the remains of A. W. C. Nowlin to be held in the auditorium of Central Union Mission tomorrow afternoon at 3 o'clock. They will be conducted by Rev. Richard Pardee Williams of Trinity rectory, this city.

THINGS WANTED TODAY

The above are advertised in oday's Star. Watch the want olumns for a purchaser.

THE PACKERS' HEARING KNOWS OF NO MUTINY

THE STAND TODAY.

CHICAGO, March 9.-T. M. Robertson special agent for the government, declared in a letter produced in court at the packers' trial today, that he had declined to examine any of the books of Armour & Co., if that examination were made conditional upon his giving a pledge that the informa-tion would not be published by President

Attorney Miller, conducting the cross-examination in behalf of Armour & Co., asked if witness would declare himself to have been given an opportunity to decline to take the information on the terms named. Mr. Robertson replied that he would not say that he had been given such an opportunity. The attorney then brought out the letter.
Mr. Robertson declared that the letter referred entirely to another matter.
Martin M. Flannery, also a special agent for the government in the beef inevstigation, was called after the conclusion of the

testimony given by Mr. Robertson. It was announced when he took the stand that the The testimony of Mr. Fiannery relative to the manner of conducting the investigation in behalf of the government, and the amount and kind of information furnished, was much in the same line as that given by previous witnesses. by previous witnesses.

INSURANCEMEN HEARD

IMPORTANT GATHERING AT AL-BANY TO DISCUSS A NEW LAW.

ALBANY, N. Y., March 9 .- Probably never before has a more remarkable gathering of life insurance men been assembled under a single roof than that which met today in the state capitol in connection with the hearing of pending amendments to the insurance law. The hearing on the bills was had before the joint special legislative investigating committee, which drew upon itself last fall universal attention by its exposures of many of the conditions surrounding the business of life insurance as carried on in this state.

Today's hearing was the first public op-portunity of the insurance companies to ex-press themselves upon the provisions of the ten bills presented by the committee to the legislature as the result of its investigation, and the great and small companies concentrated a powerful personnel upon the occa-Arrangements had been made for a very

large attendance, and yesterday it became evident that the great crowd of insurance men coming in on every train would tax to the utmost the capacity of the big assembly chamber. Last night the corridors of the hotels suggested the night before a great olitical convention. Many radical changes in the state insur-ance law and kindred statutes are proposed in the ten bills under consideration. A resume of these measures has been carried

heretofore in these dispatches

Assembly Room Crowded. Long before the time set for the hearing the assembly chamber was crowded to the point of discomfort. Former Lieut. Gov. Timothy L. Woodruff, president of the Provident Savings Life, acted as master of ceremonies and introduced the speakers. Mr. Woodruff outlined the program, and said that former Judge William B. Horn-blower of the New York Life Insurance Company would sum up for the insurance

company would sum up for the insurance companies.

He introduced President Paul Morton of the Equitable Life Assurance Society as the first speaker. Mr. Morton presented a communication in which he began by admitting that serious evils had crept into the insurance business, and by assuring the committee that he was in accord with its general purposes. He said, however, that if these bills were enacted without change it would seriously injure the insurance in-terests of the state. "Not only will the in-surance companies be unable to conduct their business in such a manner as to produce fair returns to their policyholders, and meet the requirements of the people of the state for new insurance, but the conserva-tive insurance companies of other states will be forced to discontinue business in this state.

this state.

"In short, the result of the legislation which you have recommended will be the reverse of the result you are seeking to accomplish."

Mr. Morton referred to the suggestion that the bills, even if imperfect, could be amended at the next session of the legislature, but pointed out that the investigation had commanded such widespread confidence that the example of New York would quite surely be followed by other states, and

surely be followed by other states, and that, therefore, the laws enacted at this session should be as nearly perfect as pos-Mr. Morton then took up the changes in the bills he would suggest. In brief, he believed that with certain qualifications in-surance companies should be allowed the same latitude in the matter of investments

Mr. Morton submitted schedules showing the present investments which would come within the proposed prohibition, considered under three heads, namely, collateral trust bonds, railroad stocks and stocks in banks and trust companies. He believed that only in particular instances should collateral trust bonds be criticised as unsafe investments. To force the marketing of all, he contended, would work great damage; that while insurance companies ought not to be allowed to continue control of banks and trust companies, to force them to relinquish at once would place them at the

mercy of the narrow market for these secu-He recommended, with reference to exist ing investments, that life insurance com-panies be permitted to retain their present investments in collateral trust bonds and in railroad stocks, and also their present in vestments in banks and trust companies, provided that in no case shall an insurance ompany hold over 20 per cent of the stock

of a bank or trust company.

As for future investments, Mr. Morton suggested that they be permitted in collateral trust bonds of companies operating railroads, possibly restricted to those which have not defaulted for ten years in interest payments; in preferred or guaranteed stocks of railroad companies which for five years have paid 4 per cent and in no cent years have paid 4 per cent, and in no case more than 5 per cent of the issue. He objected to the proposed standard forms of

Non-Participating Policies. The large mutual companies should be

permitted to issue non-participating policles. He accepted the proposed limitation upon new business, but he maintained that the companies should be permitted to make the companies should be permitted to make good annual losses by termination. The law should fix a minimum, not a maximum contingency reserve percentage. There should be some limit upon expenses, but the proposed limitation would not allow for inevitable uncertainties, and it was sure to "paralyze" the insurance business. Insurparalyze the property of the property "paralyze" the insurance business. Insur-ance companies should be permitted to par-ticipate in syndicate holding securities legal for insurance investments; otherwise it must pay more for them than parties to the syndicates. He questioned the justice of the proposed

prohibition of directors not directly mem-bers of financial committees from participers of financial committees from participation in syndicates selling securities to their companies. Such a prohibition, he said, would cost the companies the services of some of the most valuable men.

Alexander E. Orr, successor of the late John A. McCall as president of the New York Life, followed Mr. Morton. He said that the enactment of the bilis as they now stand would cut in half the business of his company, especially as they would now stand would cut in half the business of his company, especially as they would take effect immediately, without giving the companies a chance to conform gradually to the law. He declared that the effects of the legislation would be felt throughout the country, and that the responsibility rested upon the committee.

PRINCE TSAI TSE IN NEW YORK. Met by the Chinese Minister and Other Notables. NEW YORK, March 9.-Prince Tsal Tse,

or the Chinese imperial commission passing through this country on its way to Europe, arrived here today. He was met by Sir Chentung Llang-Cheng, Chinese minister to Washington, and by members of his party who preceded

SPECIAL AGENT ROBERTSON ON MR. ELY RECEIVED NO PETITION FROM SCHOOL PUPILS.

> Supervising Principal S. M. Ely of the ninth division of the public schools, in which the Gales School building is located. today, in an interview with the principal and eighth grade teacher of the building, declared that he had received no petition from the pupils of the school as a declaration of grievances. It had been reported that a "strike" is on at the Gales building, and that a petition drawn up by all the boys of the school save two had been the

proclamation of revolt. The alleged petition was published in norning paper and was said to have been addressed to Mr. Ely, superintendent of the Gales School, and signed by Cecilia Mc-Grath, Edith Ricketts, G. G. Frazier, L. Van Reuth, M. Offenberg, C. E. Paroni, M. J. Helm, T. F. McCarthy, F. W. Carrols, J. B. Brooks, H. Merillat and William J.

It is quoted as follows:

"I ear Sir: We, the undersigned, hereby request just treatment while attending the public schools of Washington, D. C. We seriously object to the method of marking which our present instructor has established.

"This system is that each pupil is given 100 per cent at the beginning of each menth, respectively, and at every mistake that is made 10 is supposed to be taken off. However, this is not being done. Are any exceptions allowable in this rule? It seems that some pupils receive more or less marks according to the fancy of the teacher.

"At the beginning of the school term we did not object when five marks were taken off during the long months and ten taken off during the short ones.

"We hereby ask that the rule adopted at the beginning of the school term be re-established. "This system is that each pupil is given

"Trusting this letter will receive favorable consideration and be promptly acted upon, respectfully, Pupils of the Eighth Grade, Gales School."

Know Nothing About It.

The supervisor states that neither he nor any of the teachers has seen any such pe-tition. Of the forty-one pupils enrolled in the eighth grade all were in attendance today and only four were absent yesterday. There has been no rumor of discontent, say the teachers, and the discipline is all that can be desired.

can be desired.

Reports of pupils' scholarship were given out last Monday, and it is presumed that, as usual, some pupils may have been dissatisfied with their marks, but no complaint

has been made.

The principal today has been in receipt of letters and messages of apology from the parents of the alleged petitioners, declaring the greatest confidence in the fairness of the marking system at the school and the general justice of the administration, and regretting the mortifying association of their children with any such report.

SALE OF 11TH STREET PROPERTY. Mr. Milton Smith of New York the

Purchaser.

Stone & Fairfax, real estate brokers, have made another sale of business property. The building 720 11th street, on the west side, diagonally opposite the Palais Royal, has been sold through them to Mr. Milton Smith of New York. The new owner will remodel for business purposes. The price paid was \$15,000, or about \$8 per square foot. The lot has a frontage of twenty feet and a depth of ninety-five feet to an alley.

JOINED ARMY TO REFORM.

Wealthy Son of Former Congressman Among Recruits.

Special Dispatch to The Star. COLUMBUS, Ohio, March 9.-Gavin Harris, the actor, son of the late Representative Stephen R. Harris of the t Ohio district, is a member of the third company of recruits at the United States army post here, having enlisted at Cleveland ten days ago under the name of Harris Harris, using his middle name that he had dropped in his stage career. Harris was wild in his youth and ran away from home to go upon the stage, his father being much opposed to such a course. Accidentally his father saw him play at Toledo several years ago, was pleased with his ability and a reconciliation took place on the stage. By

his father's death he inherited about \$75, Harris says he takes this course to get away from fast companions whom he could not shake off in any other way. What as-signment will be made of him cannot be told as long as he is a "rooky," hopes for service in the Philippines. He says he has still \$50,000 of his legacy, which he will keep as an investment in western

AN ANTI-PASS MEASURE.

bonds.

Iowa Senate Passed Bill Against Issuance of Passes.

DES MOINES, Iowa, March 9 .- The Hughes anti-pass measure, prohibiting railroad, street railway, telegraph and telephone companies from issuing passes and franks to state and national officials, with the exception of railroad commissioners and newspapers, passed the senate by a unanimous vote today.

The measure carries with it a provision making a violation of the law a misdemeanor punishable by fine or imprisonment. It has not reached the house.

THE HOLLISTER MURDER TRIAL Defendant's Counsel Failed to Break

Down Doctor's Testimony. CHICAGO, March 9 .- When the trial of Richard Ivens for the murder of Mrs. Bessie Hollister was resumed today, Dr. W. D. Hunter, county physician, again took the stand. Attorney Folz, who is defending Ivens, made an effort to break down the statement made yesterday by Dr. Hunter that the woman's death was caused by strangulation by the wire which had been

twisted around her neck. The effort was unsuccessful, the physician declaring that death was unquestion-

ably caused by strangulation REBELS SHOWED BAD FAITH.

Fired on Dominican Troops During Ne-

gotiations.

The State Department is in receipt of a cablegram dated Monte Christi, Santo Domingo, yesterday, saying that on the preceding day while the terms of surrender were being carried out between the government forces and the revolutionists the latter

acted in bad faith, and there was a fight in

which two officers and six men were killed,

including Gen. Cepin. The revolutionists es

Bills to Enlarge Powers Passed. pecial Dispatch to The Star.

ANNAPOLIS, Md., March 9. - Delegate Carroll's bills to enlarge the corporate powers of the towns of Takoma Park and Glen Echo, Montgomery county, passed both houses this morning and will be signed by the governor next week. The general as-sembly adjourned before noon to Monday night.

Greely in Command at San Francisco.

SAN FRANCISCO, March 9 .- Maj. Gen. W. Greely, until recently chief signal officer of the War Department at Washington, arrived here yesterday to assume command of the Pacific division of the army, filling the vacancy caused by the retirement of Gen. Sumner some weeks ago. He will to-day formally relieve Gen. Funston, who has been in command since Gen. Sumner's de-

Concurred in Report. pecial Dispatch to The Star. RICHMOND, Va., March 9 .- The hous

today by an overwhelming vote concurred in the action of the senate in adopting the minority report in the corporation commission is a senate in the corporation commission.

Star

THE

Saturday

Many attractively illustrated special features will be found in this week's issue of THE SATURDAY STAR. Included in the large list of notable articles will be the following:

STORIES OF COWBOYS.

an interesting collection of stories about second sons of English lords and their antics in the Canadian cattle country. Illustrated.

QUEER PLAYHOUSES.

theaters in New York where plays are given in foreign languages. Illustrated.

CAUSE FOR REJOICING.

Young people of France are happy over the favorable attitude of the lawmakers to-

mal Industry hope for suc-

cess with experiments in

breeding "Zebroids." Illustrated. WOMEN AS ACROBATS. An old performer explains the important part that

A MI-CAREME FETE. Paris feminine population getting ready for annual carnival. Splendors of dress in the spring modes. Illus-

Great variety noticed in styles for straw hats. Empire and page models prom-

Fiction.

CROCUSES IN MARCH. An entertaining bit of fiction written for The Star by Edith M. Doane. Illus-

THE YELLOW DANGER. P. Shiel's novel which is running as a daily serial in

The Star.

ALL WASHINGTON READS

THE SATURDAY STAR.

CHURCH UNION PROJECT.

posed consolidation of Assembly's Church with the New York Avenue Presbyterian Church. The consolidation is said to be in furtherance of the movement advocated by Mr. Justice Harlan of the United States Supreme Court to have several Presbyterian churches in the District combined in the effort to form a nucleus for the foundation of a great central Presbyterian Church in the national capital. The matter was thoroughly gone over, and many of the mem-bers seemed to be in favor of the move-

to all members of the church asking them to be present at the next meeting, which will be held next Thursday evening, when the Assembly's Church members will vote

The warm affection of the members of the Assembly's Church for their pastor maning that the plan that the Assembly's Church members will advocate having Rev. George R. Wilson as co-pastor with Rev. R. Wilson as co-pastor with Rev. Dr. Wal-lace Radcliffe in the church that may result from the consolidation. One of the officials of the Assembly's Church said that, in his estimation, the plan for the consolidation of the two churches will probably be voted upon favorably when the matter comes up for a decision Thursday evening. He also said it was the plan of the members of the nbly's Church to sell the present church

in Alexandria County.

a new bridge in Alexandria county, Va., about a half mile north of Alexandria.

the bridge is not known, but it is generally attributed to a desire on the part of some to cause trouble for the contractors on the work, and it is on this theory, it is stated, the Virginia authorities are working. Although the attempt to blow up the bridge was made Wednesday night last, it was not until this morning that it became gen-

ourt house that the parties responsible for the explosion handled the dynamite in a very bungling manner, as the damage done the stone work of the pier was compara-tively small, and can be repaired in a few days. It is also stated that the use of the bridge is but little interfered with by the

oday appointed Delmas C. Stutler collector for the estate of the late Charles H. Smith in place of William E. Ambrose. The court directed the latter to turn over what effects of the estate he had in his charge

Frank Carpenter contributes

An entertaining story of the

ward the Lemire law, which will make marriage easier. Illustrated. NEW ANIMAL SPECIES. Scientists of Bureau of Ani-

woman plays in the professional "strong act." Illus-

In Fashion's Realm.

trated. THE EASTER BONNETS.

ise to be popular. Illustrated.

Another installment of M

Two Local Presbyterian Congregations Discussing It. At a meeting held in the Assembly's Presbyterian Church, 5th and I streets northwest, last evening there was much interest shown in a discussion of the pro-

ment. The point was made that for a church to go into the movement meant to lose its individuality, but the statement was made that if the end was to be accomplished then some of the churches must make It was finally decided to have a letter sent

upon the question of joining with the New York Avenue Church. Assembly's Church to sell the present couren site and set aside the amount to be placed in the purchase price when the site for the proposed great national Presbyterian Church is purchased.

BRIDGE PIERS DAMAGED.

Alleged Attempt to Blow Up Structure One of the heavy stone plers supporting

carrying Poor House lane over the newly built tracks of the Washington Southern railway, was partially damaged by an explosion of dynamite some time during Wednesday night last. The party respon wednesday hight last. The party responsible for the explosion is not known to the Virginia authorities, but, it is stated, an investigation is being made and the officers expect to develop something of importance regarding it in a short time.

The cause for the attempt to blow up the bridge is not known but it is generally

erally known that such an attempt had been made. It is stated at the Alexandria

Substituted as Collector.

Justice Stafford in Equity Court No. 2